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DEC 28 2004

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
607 14TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON DC 20005

In re Application of :
R. Paul Schaudies et al :
Serial No.: 10/630,384 : PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL
Filed: July 30, 2003 :
Attorney Docket No.: SAIC-0062CON-1 :

This is in response to the petition filed November 1, 2003, to make the above-identified application special under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.102(d).

M.P.E.P. 708.02, part XI relates to petitions to make an application special for countering terrorism.

XI. INVENTIONS FOR COUNTERING TERRORISM

In view of the importance of developing technologies for countering terrorism and the desirability of prompt disclosure of advances made in these fields, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office will accord Aspecial status to patent applications relating to counter- terrorism inventions.

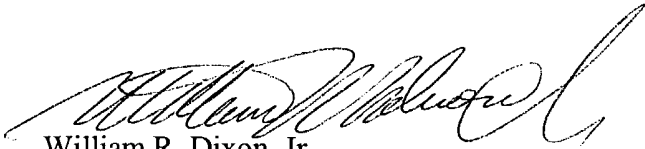
International terrorism as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2331 includes activities that - (A) involve violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State, or that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or of any State; and (B) appear to be intended - (i) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by assassination or kidnapping... The types of technology for countering terrorism could include, but are not limited to, systems for detecting/identifying explosives, aircraft sensors/security systems, and vehicular barricades/disabling systems. Applicants who desire that an application relating to inventions for countering terrorism be made special should file a petition with the petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(h) requesting the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to make the application special. **The petition for special status should be accompanied by a statement explaining how the invention contributes to countering terrorism.**

Applicants present reasons for making the application special, as required with respect to counterterrorism, specifically bioterrorism, activities. However, none of the claims are specifically directed to bioterrorism activities, rather the methods presented in the claims could be used for detection of any type of biological material. Applicants' affidavits with respect thereto have been carefully considered, but are not persuasive with respect to limiting the claims to bioterrorism and related activities.

Therefor the petition is **DENIED**.

The application will be acted on by the examiner in turn.

Should there be any questions with regard to this letter please contact William R. Dixon, Jr. by letter addressed to the Director, Technology Center 1600, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, or by telephone at 571-272-0519 or by facsimile transmission to the general Office facsimile number 571-273-8300.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William R. Dixon, Jr.", written in black ink.

William R. Dixon, Jr.
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 1600